REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH

Voting Members: Radiant Cordero, Chair; Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice-Chair; Esther Kia'āina, Augie Tulba

Committee Meeting Held March 21, 2022

Honorable Tommy Waters Council Chair, City Council City and County of Honolulu

Mr. Chair:

Your Committee on Transportation, Sustainability and Health, to which was referred the review and evaluation of the Climate Change Commission ("Commission") pursuant to Ordinance 17-44 (codified as Chapter 3, Article 15 Revised Ordinances of Honolulu ("ROH")), reports as follows:

The purpose of the review and evaluation is to determine whether the provision of the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu 1973 (Amended 2017 Edition), as amended ("Charter"), establishing the Commission should be retained, amended, or repealed. Ordinance 17-44 implements Charter Section 13-103.2, which mandates the periodic review and evaluation of certain City boards and commissions as provided by ordinance.

The Commission was established by Charter Section 6-107(h) and pursuant to Ordinance 20-47, has the following powers, duties, and functions:

The purpose of the Commission is to gather the latest science and information on climate change effects in the City and County of Honolulu ("City") and provide advice as is deemed appropriate to the Executive Director of the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency ("CCSR"), the Mayor, the Honolulu City Council ("Council"), and City departments and agencies.

The Climate Change Commission consists of five members with expertise in climate change in Hawaii, appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council to staggered five-year terms pursuant to Charter Section 13-103.

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By Mayor's Message 15 (2022), dated January 28, 2022, the Climate Change Commission submitted to the Council a report on its accomplishments and activities, as required by Ordinance 17-44 (ROH Section 3-15.4).

At your Committee's meeting on March 1, 2022, the Executive Director of the CCSR testified that the Commission is a resource that can be utilized to provide the latest information to help in making decisions on issues pertaining to climate change impacts or ways to address climate change. The Commission wants to be effective and impactful and regularly meets with other entities and agencies to exchange and share information. Additionally, using the latest data and science, it has produced numerous foundational documents to assist the City Administration and City Council in making informed decisions.

No public testimony was received.

Your Committee, after due consideration, makes the following findings:

- That although only required to meet four times a year, the Climate Change Commission has held 38 public meetings since its first meeting in February 2018.
- That the Climate Change Commission has produced seven guidance documents that evaluate climate change impacts and adaptation and mitigation strategies for more informed decision-making at the City, including:
 - o Climate Change Brief (2018);
 - o Sea Level Rise Guidance (2018);
 - Shoreline Setback Guidance (2019);

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- One Water for Climate Resiliency (2020);
- Climate Change & Financial Risk (2020);
- o Climate Change & Social Equity (2020); and
- Social Cost of Carbon (2021).
- That the findings and recommendations put forth by the Climate Change Commission in its Climate Change Brief and Sea Level Rise Guidance documents directly informed the development and adoption of Mayoral Directive 18-2, which requires City departments and agencies to consider how sea level rise and associated climate change risks will impact the City and to use the brief and guidance in their plans, programs, and capital improvement decisions.
- That the recommendations in the Climate Change Commission's One Water for Climate Resiliency white paper informed the City's One Water policy that was established via Ordinance 20-47 in December 2020.
- That the Climate Change Commission has participated in the legislative process by submitted testimony on five bills before the Honolulu City Council, including:
 - Bill 4 (2019) relating to shared mobility device parking spaces on City property;
 - o Bill 25 (2019), now Ordinance 20-10, relating to adoption of the State Energy Conservation Code;

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- Bill 2 (2020), now Ordinance 20-41, relating to off-street parking and loading;
- o Bill 65 (2020), now Ordinance 20-47, relating to the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency; and
- o Bill 48 (2021), now Ordinance 22-1, relating to Underground Storage Tanks.
- That the Climate Change Commission regularly meets with subject matter experts to better inform the Commission's work and guidance.
- That the Climate Change Commission operates with transparency in its meetings, communications, and administration.
- That the Climate Change Commission has operated in accordance with Section 6-107(h) of the Revised Charter of Honolulu and pursuant to Ordinance 20-47.

Based on the foregoing, your Committee recommends that the Climate Change Commission be retained without change, amendment, or repeal.

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Your Committee on Transportation, Sustainability and Health recommends that this Committee Report be scheduled for a public hearing and be adopted by the Council as the Council's determination on the review and evaluation of the Climate Change Commission. (Ayes: Cordero, Elefante, Kia'āina, Tulba - 4; Noes: None.)

Respectfully submitted,

Committee Chair

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